

Press Release

New Hampshire District Office

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Eric S. Spofford of Granite Recovery Centers
SBA's 2018 Young Entrepreneur of the Year
for New Hampshire & New England



As a young man Eric Spofford was able to make things happen. At the age of 18 his work in excavation and logging cleared the way for new use of lands and new vistas from old places. Through his early years he had a secret though, a secret of addiction, opioid addiction. While Eric had the skills and equipment to literally move mountains, he found himself powerless in the face of heroin.

At the age of 22, Eric was 50 pounds underweight, completely unhealthy, homeless, and hopeless. He had survived five medical interventions for overdosing. He found hope in recovery just before an expected destiny of jails, institutions and death took over. It was a new landscape, not one he cleared and assembled but one he had discovered and has passionately shared with others for more than a decade.

Eric Spofford has been in recovery since 2006. The natural extension of his passion to share a vision of hope led to Eric opening the Granite House for Men in 2008 in Derry, NH. At that time, Eric realized a gap in treatment. Young men leaving primary treatment were in need of a longer term transitional program.

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Since that time Eric and his team at Granite Recovery Centers have expanded in multiple New Hampshire Communities. In addition to the Derry facility they provide services in Canterbury, Concord, Effingham, Manchester, and Salem. These facilities offer a full-continuum of care for adult men and women suffering from the disease of addiction.

Eric's success as a business owner is substantial and extends into real estate development but it all pales in comparison to the positive impact his leadership at Granite Recovery Centers has had on thousands of individuals and their families.

Commenting on the announcement of the SBA award Mr. Spofford said "I am humbled and honored to receive this recognition. The importance of the work at Granite Recovery Centers and all of those who are on the front lines battling addiction cannot be overstated. The disease of addiction is painful and we are in the midst of a crisis. However, there is hope and there is a solution. I am grateful for the chances I have been given to share my story and belief in long term treatment that truly transforms lives, families, and communities. We are in this together and we need to continue to help each other."

John Phelan of Enterprise Bank nominated Eric Spofford for the award stating "As a social Entrepreneur Eric has built a strong and sustainable organization in a very short period of time. His story is truly inspirational as he continues to change the lives of so many individuals and families affected by this addiction. His impact on our local NH communities through his efforts is tremendous and we congratulate him on this well-deserved award. "

Greta Johansson, District Director for the New Hampshire office of the SBA commented, "Eric Spofford is an amazing example of the combination of passion, good business sense and a young person with a driving desire to take on a problem head on. The SBA is proud to have been able to support his efforts through our financing programs, and we look forward to his continued success."

Eric Spofford of Granite Recovery Centers will be recognized locally at the annual **NH SBA Small Business Awards** event on **May 2nd** at the Manchester Country Club in Bedford. To learn more about Granite Recovery Centers and Mr. Spofford visit www.graniterecoverycenters.com

For info on the May 2nd event call Warren Haggerty at 603-225-1405 or <u>warren.haggerty@sba.gov</u>

To register for the event click <u>here</u> or visit <u>www.nhbankers.com</u> Event Schedule

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